

Valuetory of Colfax.

The following is Colfax's valuetory address to

the U. S. Senate.

S. V. T. The time fixed by the Constitution for

the dissolution of the Forty-second Congress has

arrived. With a few parting words I shall resign the

gavel to the honored son of Massachusetts who has

been chosen by the people as my successor. Ad-

ministrations terminate, and Congress expires as a

year passes by, but the nation lives, grows, and pro-

ceeds, to be served in the future by others equally

faithful to its interests and equally proud of its

growing influence among the nations of the earth.

To be called by the representatives of the people,

and afterwards by the people themselves, to the re-

sponsible duty of presiding successfully over the

two Houses of Congress for the past ten years, from

the era of the war through the era of reconstruction

to the era of peace, more than fills the measure of

an honorable ambition. Looking back over these

ten exciting years, I can claim not only that I have

committed to act which has proved the confidence

unplaced that called me to this position, but also

that I have striven in my official duties to adminis-

ter parliamentary law with the same impartiality

with which the upright judge upon the bench de-

cides in questions of life and liberty; to faithfully

protect the rights of the minority, as well as to up-

hold the rights of the majority, in the advancement

of public business; to remain calm and unmoved

amid the excitement of debate; to temper and re-

strain appetites, and guard against perpetrating im-

pugnancies; to perform acceptably the complex and

often perplexing duties of the Chair without par-

tisan bias, has been my constant endeavor.

It is gratifying, therefore, that of the many hun-

dreds of decisions made by me, often on the instant,

none have been reversed, and scarce any seriously

questioned. How much I owe to the uniform kind-

ness and support of the members over whom I have

presided, is difficult to express in words. I have

been bounded by no petty fears, and controlled by

no party affections, and I rejoice that I have been

able to attest my appreciation of this support.

While zealously defending principles before the

people, this defense has never been coupled with

personal assaults on any of the eminent public men

with whom I have differed. No aspersions of this

character have fallen from my lips.

But the Clerk admonishes me that the Forty-

second Congress has already passed into history,

and wishing you, Senators, peaceful lives for your

country, and happy lives for yourselves, and thank-

ing you for the resolution spread on your journals,

and looking the favor of Him who holds the whole

destinies of nations, and men in the hollow of His

hand, I am ready to administer the oath of office to

the Vice-President elect, whom I now introduce to

you.

Address of the Vice-President Elect.

Vice-President Wilson, standing at the Secretary's

desk, addressed the Senate as follows:

S. V. T. In assuming the position assigned me

by the voice of the nation, I am not, I trust, un-

mindful of the obligations it imposes. A service here

somewhat prolonged, covering a period crowded

with great events, and an association here with

nearly two hundred and thirty Senators, many of

them statesmen of large and varied experience, have

impressed upon me the magnitude of the responsibilities

resting upon the occupant of this Chair, and the

rules of the Senate in Parliamentary law and the

Constitution.

In passing then from the seat I have held for more

than eighteen years to this Chair, I trust I com-

prehend something of its just requirements, some-

thing, of its tone and temper of the Senate. In pre-

siding over your deliberations I shall ever strive to

be free from personal prejudice and partisan bias, as

a sense of public duty and obligations of personal

friendship alike require that I shall be as considerate

and just, and as impartial as the lot of humanity

permits.

To the justice, generosity, and friendly regards

of Senators I trust fully to appeal for that counsel

and encouragement, to that forbearance and indul-

gence which I am sure I shall often require as your

presiding officer.

The Melbourne Argus says:—

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profitableness of beet-growing and

sugar-making, certain facts supplied to us seem to

place that beyond doubt. We are informed that

it has been ascertained by actual experiment that

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which the company contracts to pay when the beets

are delivered at its works is £1 a ton. For

farmers whose operations lie within a few miles

of a sugar factory, this must form the basis of a

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